

TIP OF THE

April 9, 2004

SWORD

Incirlik Air Base, Turkey



Rakin' it in

39th CPTF receives Air Force-level recognition



Photo by Senior Airman Michelle Miranda
Emin Onatoglu, 39th Services Squadron Hodja Inn front desk clerk, checks in customer Senior Airman James Seymore, 39th Communications Squadron photographer. The Hodja Inn was recently examined by a U.S. Air Forces in Europe team as it competes for a USAFE lodging award. See related story, Page 5.

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Photo by Senior Airman Dallas Edwards
Gen. John Jumper, U.S. Air Force chief of staff, addresses an audience during the base-wide wing call Tuesday. General Jumper's speech highlighted upcoming Air Force changes, lauded the efforts and dedication of Airmen, especially those actively involved in the global war on terrorism, and stressed that Airmen stay encouraged. See related article, Page 3.

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As of Wednesday, the Incirlik Air Force Assistance Fund Campaign



has reached 28 percent of its 100 percent contact goal. The campaign runs through April 23. For more information, contact your unit AFAF representative. This year's motto, 'A commitment to caring,' reflects the campaign's goal to sponsor an annual effort to raise funds for the charitable affiliates that provide support to the Air Force family (active duty, retirees, reservists, guard and their families, including surviving spouses) in need.

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On the cover:

Senior Airman Jerry Klein, 39th Comptroller Flight dispersing technician, counts money at the cashier's cage. The 39th CPTF recently earned two Air Force-level awards in recognition of their accomplishments in 2003. (Photo by Senior Airman Dallas Edwards.)

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The 39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the *Tip of the Sword*. The 39th ABW Public Affairs Office (Unit 7090, Box 135, APO AE 09824-5153) is located in Building 833, Room 274.
Submissions: The editor or other *Tip of the Sword* staff will edit or re-write material for clarity brevity or to conform with the Associated Press Style Guide, local policy and Air Force style as required by Air Force Instruction 35-101. Contributions for the *Tip of the Sword* can be made through e-mail to tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil. The editor can be reached at 676-6060. **Deadlines:** Submission deadlines are Wednesday, nine days, prior to publication date. If submissions are publishable, they run based on space available and priority. **Disclaimer:** The *Tip of the Sword* is printed by Kemal Matbaasi, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written agreement with the 39th Air Base Wing. This funded Air Force magazine is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas. Unless otherwise noted, photographs are Air Force photos. The *Tip of the Sword* uses information from the Armed Forces Information Service, Air Force News Service, U.S. Forces in Europe News Service and other sources. Contents of *Tip of the Sword* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense or Department of the U.S. Air Force. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. **Contact Information:** To reach the 39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff, call 6-3217, fax 6-6492, e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil or stop by Building 833, Room 274.

Gen. Jumper urges Airmen to 'stay encouraged'

By Staff Sgt. Elaine Aviles
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The war on terrorism, force shaping and the Air Force fitness program are all major priorities in today's Air Force, said the service's senior leader during a visit here Tuesday.

With the recent gruesome murders of four U.S. contractors and the almost daily loss of American military members' lives, General Jumper's speech focused on ensuring Airmen stay encouraged throughout the fight.

"There are a lot of uncertainties with what's going on in Iraq," said Gen. John Jumper, U.S. Air Force chief of staff. "It's not very encouraging. But terrorists are people we have nothing in common with. They killed 3,000 people during the Sept. 11 attacks, but would have killed 3 million without remorse if they could have. We have to stay resolute."

Although every Airman is needed for the fight, General Jumper said streamlining the existing force through the force shaping program still remains a priority for Air Force leaders.

"During the 90s, we reduced our force by about 40 percent, but we didn't take the slots away," he said. "People were moved from critical skills to fill those slots and we need them back. We're 16,000 people over our end strength.

"We don't want to kick out people who want to stay in," the general emphasized. "We'll continue our efforts to offer a way out for those who are ready to go and also rely on attrition."

For those who remain, the fitness program remains a concern.

"A lot of people are concerned about the waist measurement," he said. "I'm not worried about anyone maxing out the test, all I care about is if you pass, and pass as a unit."

General Jumper said too many people were kicked out of the Air Force over the past decade because of fitness issues.

"Did they have help?" he asked. "I'm not convinced they did. We have to help each other out so everyone passes the fitness test."

To ensure that, squadron commanders' officer performance reports will have an area to reflect how well their squadron did on the fitness test.

"The mark of a good leader is how well the people under him or her perform," he said.



Gen. John Jumper, U.S. Air Force chief of staff (left), and Col. Michael Gardiner, 39th Air Base Wing commander, take a lunch break at the Sultan's Inn dining facility during General Jumper's visit Tuesday. (Photo by Senior Airman Dallas Edwards)

General Jumper said it appears the leaders at Incirlik are doing a great job.

"Incirlik remains a strategic location that is vital to Air Force operations," he said.

"I don't have to tell you what a great job you're doing," he continued. "I think it's evident, especially with the important work you're doing to help U.S. soldiers transit home."

This work does not go unnoticed by the American public, the general said.

"People look to the uniform as a symbol of power and strength," he said. "I guarantee if you walk down the street in your uniform, people will come up to you and thank you for what you do."

This pride should carry over to every Airman, General Jumper said.

"I recently visited an Airman in the hospital who was wounded by a landmine in Bagram. He lost his leg," he said. "But, when I walked into that hospital room, the first thing he said was, 'don't let them kick me out.' He realized he was part of something bigger than himself. So are you. When you look in the mirror, be proud of what you see."

Hodja Inn competes for USAFE award

By Staff Sgt. Elaine Aviles
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

From toilet paper to towels, a U.S. Air Forces in Europe team examined just about every aspect of Hodja Inn during a week-long evaluation for top lodging facility in the command.

The Innkeeper Award goes to facilities each year that demonstrate excellence in Air Force lodging. Incirlik is competing in the large facility category.

"It would be a huge honor to win," said 2nd Lt. Megan Best, 39th Services Squadron lodging manager.

"We're up against some tough competition, but I think our location makes our facility unique."

Because of force protection considerations, guests can't be sent downtown when the inn is full.

"We have to find a bed for everyone who comes through here," Lieutenant Best said. "But even

when we're doubled up, our customer service is excellent."

The evaluation team agreed. During the outbrief, the staff was praised for its housekeeping, organization and administrative procedures.

"Our Turkish staff is amazingly welcoming and friendly," said Master Sgt. Gary Bornstein, 39th SVS assistant lodging manager. "Even if you don't ask for an item, it will probably end up in your room because a staff member overheard you mentioning it. They really care about the customers."

The results will be released at the end of this month. While they hope for the best, the verdict won't change much at the inn.

"We'll continue to provide the best customer service and hospitality we can to all our guests," said Lt. Col. Jeffery Linskens, 39th Services Squadron commander.

"I'm proud of the Hodja Inn staff and the excellent job they do on a daily basis."



Photo by Senior Airman Michelle Miranda
Yasemin Iloglu, Hodja Inn housekeeper, makes a bed in one of the many Hodja Inn rooms. The customer service of the lodging staff was one of the areas highlighted during the recent evaluation.

AFN-Incirlik captures several media awards

By Airman 1st Class Stephanie Hammer
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

American Forces Network-Incirlik captured two first-place awards in the 48th Annual Air Force Media Contest and one individual Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs honor this year.

AFN-I took first place in local television newscast and the "Family Advocacy" television spot production categories. Staff Sgt. Harry Kibbe, AFN-I broadcast producer, produced "Family Advocacy."

Senior Airman Lee Hoover, AFN-I broadcast producer, was also named SAF/PA's Airman of the Year.

"We have earned first place in the local television category two years in a row," said Master Sgt. Larry Schneck, AFN-I Detachment 7 chief. "This only happens through hard work and having a creative team of people dedicated to being the best."

AFN-I's most important role is to give base commanders the ability to deliver their messages through radio and TV broadcasts.

"We do more than just give people great entertainment," said Sergeant Schneck. "We inform them about the world going on around them in Turkey."

"If we provide one person with what they need, then we've done a good job," added Tech. Sgt. Robert Shields, Det. 7 operations manager.

But getting key messages out isn't always easy.

"Finding the right mix of entertainment to help us get out the command information is the most challenging part of our job," said Sergeant Shields. "The diversity of the Incirlik community and every military community is always a challenge. It's hard to please everyone, but I



Photo by Senior Airman Michelle Miranda

Senior Airman Lee Hoover, AFN-Incirlik broadcast producer, adjusts the keyboard during his radio show. Airman Hoover was the Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs Airman of the Year.

believe AFN-I is doing a great job at it.

"I feel good for the young broadcasters who work extremely hard around-the-clock, providing AFN services on a daily basis," he continued. "The awards put them at the top of their career field. They are the best in the Air Force."

Airman Hoover contributes his success as a broadcaster to the fact he loves to come to work every day.

"I get to meet and work with a lot of people in a day, and I'm always doing something different," he said. "I know it sounds cliché, but this is the best job in the Air Force."

Airman Hoover is looking forward to next year's awards, and hopes for another first-place win by just, "keep on keeping on."

As for the rest of the detachment, according to Sergeant Schneck, they "... will never let up, not for one second."

Home fire hazards can be avoided

There are more than 1,700 home fires every day. On average one home starts burning every minute. Home fires cause death, injury and property damage, yet most are preventable.

People need to be aware of the ways fires start and periodically check for fire hazards. The Incirlik Fire Department recommends the use of the following checklist:

Electricity

- ♦ Are all appliance cords and extension cords in good condition?
- ♦ Are all electrical cords in the open, not under rugs, over nails or through doorways?
- ♦ Are all appliances with hot surfaces and light bulbs kept away from things that burn easily?

Cooking

- ♦ Are loose-fitting clothes avoided near the stove?
- ♦ Are cooking appliance cords kept on the counter and out of the reach of children?

- ♦ Are pot handles turned in to avoid scalding?
- ♦ Are children kept away from cooking areas?
- ♦ Are things used often removed from the cabinet or shelf above the stove?
- ♦ Is everyone in the household aware not to use water or flour on grease fires? Instead, use the lid to cover a pan fire, baking soda or a fire extinguisher.

Flammable liquids

- ♦ Are all flammables liquids stored in Underwriters Laboratory or Factory Mutual approved metal safety cans outside the home?
- ♦ Are family members aware never to use gasoline as a cleaning agent?
- ♦ Are flammable liquids used in a well-ventilated area and kept away from heat sources?

Outdoors

- ♦ Are yards, fences and areas near the house free of trash, dry grass and leaves?

- ♦ Is the barbecue grill kept away from combustibles and located where it will not tip over on anyone?
- ♦ Is charcoal lighter fluid used before striking the match and never after the fire has started?
- ♦ Are lawn mower motors allowed to cool down before refueling them?
- ♦ Are cigarettes extinguished before refueling vehicles at the gas station?
- ♦ Are cellular phones turned off before refueling vehicles?

Matches and smoking

- ♦ Are ashtrays kept where people smoke?
- ♦ Do you make certain that all smoking materials are cold before disposing of them?
- ♦ Are matches kept out of the reach and sight of young children?
- ♦ Are older children taught the proper use of matches under supervision?
- ♦ Do you know you should never smoke while reclining on upholstered furniture or while in bed? (Courtesy 39th Civil Engineer Squadron fire department)

Air Force announces new SRB list

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Bluesuiters will see significant changes in the newly released selective re-enlistment bonus list resulting from solid retention rates, Pentagon officials said.

Following the selective re-enlistment review board, the Air Force has published the latest SRB list which contains 62 Air Force specialties.

"The SRB program is a retention tool the Air Force uses as an incentive to help keep the right people in the right jobs to accomplish our mission," said Senior Master Sgt. Maria Cornelia, chief of retention and bonus programs at Air Force headquarters, Washington D.C.

"During this period of improved retention, it is prudent to make adjustments," she said. "Airmen should remember that SRBs are not an entitlement and must be adjusted to meet Air Force needs."

All enlisted skills were reviewed, including reporting and special-duty identifiers, officials said.

The criteria used to determine which enlisted skills receive an SRB include current and projected manning levels, re-enlistment trends, career-field force structure changes and inputs from individual career-field managers. SRBs are authorized in 0.5 increments, or multiples, and in three re-enlistment zones for people with between 17 months and 14 years of service.

Zone A, which applies to Airmen re-enlisting between 17 months and six years of service, incurred nine increases, 19 reductions and 86 removals. Zone B, which applies to Airmen re-enlisting between six and 10 years of service, had eight increases, 18 reductions and 80 removals. Zone C, which applies to Airmen re-enlisting between 10 and 14 years of service, saw one increase, four decreases and 32 removals.

Additions and multiple increases were effective March 30. The SRB multiple decreases and deletions are effective April 30.

For more information, call the military personnel flight at 6-3280.

Finance nets 2 Air Force-level awards

By Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The 39th Comptroller Flight's year of hard work added up to two Air Force level award wins for 2003: Financial Services Office of the Year, 39th CPTF Financial Services Office; and Special Acts and Services Award.

"I couldn't be more happy (about winning the awards)," said Maj. Norm Dozier, 39th CPTF commander. "Across the board we did exceptionally well in the award categories this year. It's indicative of the impact a small unit can have on the overall mission."

In 2003, the 39th CPTF was faced with various challenges that many stateside offices didn't: Operation Northern Watch deactivation, voluntary departure and return of dependants, a wing-to-group transition and a group-to-wing transition.

All of the above revolve around money and can't happen unless finance shuffles the necessary paperwork and money to the appropriate places.

"In a nutshell, our job is pushing resources to the warfighter," Major Norm Dozier.

After the resources are in place, customers soon line up to figure out their entitlements and aren't always happy with the answer.

"One of the hardest parts about my job is explaining why a customer is not entitled to something they believe they are entitled to," said Senior Master Sgt. Barbara Gill, 39th CPTF superintendent, who won runner-up superin-

tendent for 2003 at the Air Force-level.

"On the flip side, we really enjoy teaching members how to read their leave and earning statement and Air Force Benefits Fact Sheet so they feel more in control."

Customer service is typically at the heart of winning unit awards, and Major Dozier and his team plans to continue their high-level of quality service into the coming year.

Not one to settle for status quo, Major Dozier plans to carve out a niche in next year's award race by, "Always anticipating what organizations and people (both above and below the chain of command) need and act accordingly to improve our weak points, and have fun!"



Photo by Senior Airman Dallas Edwards

Senior Airman Jerry Klein, 39th Comptroller Flight dispersing technician, cashes a check for Master Sgt. Dawn Moss, 39th Air Base Wing protocol superintendent.



IN
BRIEF

Estate claims

People with claims against the estate of Master Sgt. Andre White, who was assigned to the 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron, should contact Capt. Peter Nigro, 39th LRS summary courts officer, at 6-6737.

Munitions Road closure

A limited closure along the Munitions Road starts April 15 and is scheduled to re-open May 31. The closure is effective from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and will only effect one side of the road at a time. To help ensure safety, flagmen will be posted in both directions to help direct traffic. For more information, call Alfred Thomas, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron construction inspector, at 6-8020 or 6-3433.

A Street road closure

April 16 and 17 A Street will be closed from the softball fields going northeast to the Information, Tickets and Tours area, Building 682. Buildings 675, 678, 680 and 682 will be impacted. For more information, call Paul Swinney, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron construction management chief, at 6-8020.

DEROS election RIPS

People with a date of return from overseas of February 2005 should have received their DEROS option report of individual personnel. This RIP allows members to keep or extend their original DEROS. People who have not received a RIP or for more information, call unit command support staffs or the military personnel flight relocations element at 6-3225.

Fall VML announcement

Officers vulnerable to relocate during the October through January permanent change of station cycle can review the personnel requirements display on the Assignment Management System Web page at <https://afas.afpc.randolph.af.mil/amsweb/master.cfm>. For more information, call the military personnel flight relocations element at 6-3225.

GOV fuel key re-code

A base-wide vehicle and organization tank fuel key re-code is in progress. Vehicle control officers should take fuel keys to the resource control center in Building 124 by April 16 to be recoded. For more information, call 6-6469.

Once upon a time ...



Photo by Senior Airman Dallas Edwards

Senior Airman Amanda Templeton, 39th Medical Squadron surgical services NCO in charge and a Listen to me Read program

volunteer, reads to Debi Harvey's kindergarten class recently at the Incirlik Elementary School.

Volunteers give 'gift of reading'

By 2nd Lt. Elizabeth Culbertson
39th Maintenance Group

"If you won't open the door..." Senior Airman Amanda Templeton paused for her rapt audience.

"Then I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house down!" chimed in the 27 enthusiastic kindergarteners in Debi Harvey's class.

Airman Templeton, 39th Medical Squadron NCO in charge of surgical services, is one of 16 regular volunteers in Incirlik's Listen to me Read program. As a volunteer, she spends at least an hour a week reading to students at Incirlik Elementary School. Other program volunteers act as mentors, math tutors and homework club monitors.

The Listen to me Read program began as a Project CHEER initiative. The committee brainstormed ideas for fun activities that would give unaccompanied people something to do, as well as "give back to the community and get people involved," explained Project CHEER coordinator 2nd Lt. Barbara Horne, 39th Communications Squadron Planning and Implementations Flight commander. Since the elementary school's focus this year is on reading comprehension, the two were a natural fit.

Lieutenant Horne contacted the elementary school's mentor and volunteer program director, Ann Suttmiller, and efforts to pump up the school's volunteer reader program ensued. What initially began as a program to help unaccompanied personnel now helps out students and teachers as well.

Ms. Suttmiller began a training program to teach volunteers how to encourage class participation in reading and how to create an interactive environment.

"The program teaches volunteers how to turn reading into both a learning and a pleasurable experience," she said.

"We focus on teaching the students to be able to retell the story, which demonstrates reading comprehension—a skill that will help

them in every subject area."

The teachers see the benefits of the program. When children are read to, they become better readers, said Ms. Harvey.

"The volunteers are a wonderful resource for the kids. The gift of reading is the greatest gift you can give," said Ms. Harvey.

Ms. Ann Rauscher, who teaches sixth grade, agrees. She sees the effect her volunteer, 2nd Lt. Mark Venner, 39th Communications Squadron resources adviser, has on her class.

"The exchange with the kids is wonderful. The approach is informal but effective, drawing the kids into discussion," she said.

Ms. Rauscher said that, for her age group, the program has an added benefit.

"Lieutenant Venner is like a coach to them," she said. "He knows this age group and understands adolescents. He really motivates them. There is no difference between the weakest and the strongest readers to him."

The students clearly respond. Charessa Holtzen, age 12, said, "I think it's fun because he (Lieutenant Venner) reads to us the way we like to hear it."

The volunteers benefit as well.

"By volunteering, I get the reward of doing something good for others," said Airman Templeton. "I love seeing how the kids smile, laugh and get involved during the readings. For that hour, I get to be a big kid again."

Participation in the Listen to me Read program has been excellent, said Lieutenant Horne. However, the program can always use more volunteers. Particularly in demand are volunteers able to come on a regular basis each week to work one-on-one with struggling readers. Regardless of work schedule, there is a day, time and age group for everyone willing to volunteer.

For more information or to volunteer, call Lieutenant Horne at 6-6608 or Ms. Suttmiller at 6-3109.

It's a racket



Photos by Senior Airman Dallas Edwards

(Top) Staff Sgt. Scott Baros, 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle operations quality assurance evaluator, takes a swing while Master Sgt. Christopher Allison (far left), 39th Communications Squadron project manager, and Airman 1st Class Jeremey Merrill, 39th LRS storage and issue clerk, wait for a chance at the ball during a racquetball game Tuesday at the fitness center. **(Left)** Sergeant Baros plays another game with Staff Sgt. Shane Wacaster, 39th CS Visual Imagery and Intrusion Detection systems assistant NCO in charge. The Air Base Wing/Mission Support Squadron #1 team is the 2004 intramural racquetball league champions, with the CS team coming in at second place. Play-offs begin Monday. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Tiffani Johnson, 39th Services Squadron sports director, at 6-1109.



ON DECK

LU2G reunion — Link Up 2 Golf 2003 graduates are invited to a 9-hole outing April 16 at 5 p.m. at the golf course. Cost is \$5 per person and includes green fees, club rental and cart. For more information, call 6-8995.

Golf tourney — The golf course sponsors a "Team up with the Masters" event Saturday at 8 p.m. The event is a 4-person blind draw. Cost is \$15 per person and includes lunch and a chance for prizes. For more information, call 6-8995.

Preschool T-ball — The youth center sponsors a T-ball clinic for 3- and 4-year-olds Saturdays at 10 a.m. from April 24 to May 15. Cost is \$6 per child. For more information, call 6-6670.

Volleyball league — Intramural volleyball league starts Monday. Matches are 6:30, 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. at the fitness center. For more information, call 6-6086.

Volleyball — The men's and women's base volleyball teams are practicing for the upcoming volleyball season. Anyone interested in playing on the teams can go to practices Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 until 8 p.m., or call Senior Master Sgt. Don Dufner, 39th Air Base Wing manpower and organization chief, at 6-3690.

Fitness competition — A push-up and sit-up competition is Saturday at 8 a.m. For more information, call 6-6086.

Coaches needed — The youth center needs volunteers to coach youth baseball. The season runs April 17 to June 12. For more information, call Bo Benton, 39th Services Squadron recreation specialist, at 6-6670.

Bowling leagues — The Magic Carpet Bowling Center sponsors intramural league bowling Mondays and Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. For more information, call 6-6789.

Rugby — Rugby enthusiasts meet Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 5 p.m. at the high school sports field. Everyone is welcome. Instruction is provided for beginners. For more information, call the fitness center at 6-6086.

Skeet and trap shooting — Outdoor recreation offers skeet and trap shooting Tuesdays through Fridays by appointment. Open shooting begins Saturdays at 9 a.m. Cost is \$10, and includes shells and clays. For more information, call 6-6044.

Rhythmic gymnastics — Rhythmic gymnastics are offered Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4 p.m. for ages 5 and up. Cost is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. For more information, call the youth center at 6-6670.

Scuba course — Outdoor recreation offers a scuba course, which includes training and Professional Association of Diving Instructors certification. Water training is provided in an indoor pool, plus four open water dives in Kizkalesi. Cost is \$250. For more information, call Yasar Karalar, scuba instructor, at 6-6044 or e-mail incirlikdiving@yahoo.com.

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



By Col. Michael Gardiner, 39th Air Base Wing commander

The Incirlik team has come to the end of another successful week. I am proud of the day-to-day accomplishments of the Incirlik community as we meet the mission daily with hours of dedication to our primary, as well as additional, duties. Keep up the good work and be proud of the accomplishments Team Incirlik make happen everyday.

Goal Day

In recognition of the wing's performance in meeting mission, readiness, combat and special interest programs, and my special interest item goals, today is a goal day for the 39th Air Base Wing.

You all work hard every day, and it shows.

Take time to enjoy yourself, your family and Turkey this weekend, but keep safety in mind. We want to see you safely back to work on Monday!

Chief of staff visit

We were very fortunate to host a visit by Gen. John Jumper, U.S. Air Force chief of staff, here this week. General Jumper is a strong advocate for making constant improvements to the Air Force and its people from what we wear to how and where we work to what we fly and the tools we use to accomplish our mission.

Monthly promotions

Congratulations to the following people of the Incirlik team who have reached the next grade. Your hard work and dedication do not go unnoticed.

The newest officer promotees are **Col. David Hall**, 39th Medical Squadron; **Maj. Marc Larue**, Air Force Element NATO; and **Capt. Dennis Clements**, 39th Contracting Squadron.

The newest Incirlik enlisted promotees are Senior Master Sgt. **John Trachte**, 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Master Sgts. Ira Adcock**, 39th Maintenance Squadron; **George Barnes Jr.**, 39th Security

Forces Squadron; **Kenneth Brooks**, 39th Operations Squadron; **Julian Kaelin**, 425th Air Base Squadron; **Kermit Kemmerer III**, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron; and **Roberta William**, 39th Air Base Wing; **Tech. Sgts. Benjamin Fisk**, 39th LRS; **Leon Southard II**, 39th SFS; **Andre Thomas**, 39th Comptroller Flight; and **Seng Thong**, 39th MXS; **Staff Sgts. Louise Bacon**, 39th MXS; **Rebecca Jones**, 39th Communications Squadron; **Zonel Laborde**, 39th Medical Squadron; **Sherwin St. Pierre**, 39th CS; **Clinton Truitt**, 39th MXS; **Nicholas Weiers**, 39th MXS; and **James Wood IV**, 425th ABS; **Senior Airman David Dreadfulwater**, 728th Air Mobility Squadron; **Airman 1st Class Felicia Kordsmeier**, 728th AMS; **Airmen Robin Kirkhom**, 39th LRS; **Jennifer Van Cleave**, 39th LRS; **Johnny Ware II**, 39th LRS; and **Terence Wilson**, 39th LRS.

PME

Congratulations to members of Team Incirlik who have recently completed professional military education at the NCO Academy. Take the lessons you have learned through PME back to your work centers and help make Incirlik an even better place to be and to work. Let your example help guide and mentor junior members.

All of our PME graduates, especially those that distinguished themselves by earning awards, should be proud of their accomplishments.

NCO Academy graduates were: **Tech. Sgts. Douglas Jarman**, 39th Communications Squadron, who also earned a distinguished graduate award; **Gervada Lee**, 425th Air Base Squadron, who also earned a distinguished graduate award; **Ernest Jiron**, 39th Air Base Wing; **Raymond Sanchez**, 39th CS; **Stacy Livous**, 39th Maintenance Squadron; and Special Agent **Joshua Hannan**, Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Detachment 522.

Force protection

Force protection is a way of life for everyone in today's society. It's critical everyone ensure their Level 1 Antiterrorism Training is current prior to any official or unofficial travel. Additionally, before traveling to any overseas locations you should receive an AOR specific threat briefing for that location. It's also wise to know the location of the U.S. Embassy and other safe locations where you can find refuge or assistance. Plan your trip well in advance of the anticipated departure date.

It's a great time of year to travel, and I encourage you to get out there and see all the wonderful things our host nation has to offer, but remember to play it safe.

Effective antiterrorism takes everyone's involvement

By 2nd Lt. Darrell Peek
14th Security Forces Squadron

COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. (AETCNS) — The March 11 train bombings in Spain, which occurred 911 days after Sept. 11, 2001, as well as the daily bombings in Iraq, illustrate the unwavering resolve of terrorists to target and attack those they fervently hate.

In response to these and past terrorist attacks, a great deal of time, effort and money has been spent gathering intelligence and attempting to safeguard ourselves as well as

others. Yet, lives are unfortunately lost to the perpetrators of terror almost daily.

This leads many people to believe if terrorists really want to get us, they will. This is a rather fatalistic attitude, but it's pervasive throughout the world.

So how do we protect ourselves from those determined to harm us? What, if anything, can we learn from all of this violence?

First, terrorists will continue to innovate and adapt in an effort to strike at the heart of their sworn enemies, regardless of gender, age or military affiliation. Their goal is to terrorize people into altering the way they or

their governments do business. An election outcome was significantly affected by the bombings in Spain.

Moreover, terrorists are only limited by their own imaginations. Although improvised explosive devices, vehicular borne or hand-carried, seem to be the weapons of choice, you can bet terrorists are working on new methods to murder innocent people and destroy property. Terrorists are continually working on the next 9/11.

The old paradigms of regulatory compliance and rapid adherence to Force Protection Condition checklists cannot, on their own, provide the basis for antiterrorism efforts. I'm not arguing their value as a baseline. They are necessary. However, it is imperative we innovate and adapt as the terrorists do.

See **Antiterrorism**, Page 9



Ask MEHMET

By Mehmet Birbiri, *Host Nation Adviser*

Domestication takes flight

Question: Mehmet, we think the pigeons in our neighborhood are very pretty, and we've heard Turkish nationals tame them and keep them as domesticated pets. We've heard they wave a black rag attached to the end of a stick at the birds. Why do they do that, and can we tame a pigeon ourselves?

Response: What you've heard is correct. If you look closely at the roofs of neighboring



Irfan Sulku stands on top of his three-story home in Incirlik village and waves a stick with black rags attached to the end of it as a signal to his pigeons so they know which roof to return to.

houses, you'll see pigeon cages. When you see pigeon owners waving their sticks, they're communicating with their domesticated pigeons.

The people on the roofs wave the long sticks to help the pigeons mark the house they belong to, but a good and valuable pigeon doesn't need such a sign.

When they want the pigeons to come down, they hold a white pigeon from its tail and feet, making it flap its wings. As soon as the high flying and circling pigeons see the white pigeon flapping its wings, they dive down like bullets and land on the roof.

Growing and flying domesticated pigeons is a common hobby in Turkey. The pigeons are categorized according to features including feather color, eye color and tail shape. A regular person, like me, cannot differentiate between pigeons by looking at them. But hobbyists can easily tell you what type of pigeon it is, even if the bird is flying several hundred feet high.

The value of pigeons depend on how high and long it can fly. Another very important fact that raises the value of the pigeon is for it to always return home. The value of domesticated pigeons ranges from \$10 to \$1,000.

There are unwritten rules and agreements among domesticated pigeon owners. Everybody would like, and try very hard, to catch someone else's pigeon. You can't use a trap or any unfair system. However, if you catch a pigeon you own it. Even if it belongs to your closest friend, you keep it. Many times when a pigeon is caught, its wings are tied or the big feathers on its wings are removed so that it cannot fly away. By the time new feathers grow in again, the pigeon is used to its new roof (house).

Another rule, if you buy a pigeon and it



Photos by Mehmet Birbiri

Irfan Sulku watches the domesticated pigeons he raises return. Mr. Sulku shares his hobby of domesticating pigeons with his two brothers; they have about 200 pigeons.

flies back to its former house, you can't claim it. One of my brothers used to have domesticated pigeons. I remember he sold a pigeon six times and it always came back. Twice its feathers were removed and as soon as it was able to fly, it flew back to my brother.

Domesticating pigeons is a hobby that is very common in southeastern Turkey, especially in Diyarbakir and Sanliurfa. Pigeon lovers have a special market and meeting places (tea houses). Auctions are held in those tea houses and disputes between hobbyists are solved by senior hobbyists acting as judges.

Anybody can tame pigeons, but not wild ones. You should start taming a pigeon while it is a baby. The pigeon should come from parents who are domesticated. Of course, taming a pigeon or any animal requires time, patience, knowledge and some skill.

Do you have a question about something Turkish? Ask Mehmet. To submit a question, call 6-6060 or e-mail mehmet.birbiri@incirlik.af.mil.

Antiterrorism

Continued from Page 8

We can no longer rely solely on numerically sequenced directives in the hopes of sending the terrorists somewhere else. These people are smart and will not attack us when we most expect it.

The most important thing we can learn is antiterrorism is everyone's responsibility. At least two of the unexploded devices found during the recent bombings in Spain were left in unattended backpacks. With a little vigilance or situational awareness, lives could have been saved.

If you were standing outside the base exchange and found an unattended bag, would you become suspicious? Would you report it or move people away from the area?

Do you recall the Centennial Olympic Park bombing during the summer of 1996 in Atlanta? At a recent antiterrorism course, I learned people actually tried to walk off with the backpack containing the bomb until they realized it was too heavy.

Vigilance and a willingness to act are paramount if we are to render the enemy ineffective.

In every antiterrorism class I've ever instructed, I repeat the same message: I'd rather be embarrassed to have reported something that turned out to be harmless, than to live with the fact I could have saved somebody's life and failed.

As a nation, the expectation our government can stop every single act of terrorism is highly unrealistic. As Air Force members, the expectation security forces or the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, our counter-terrorism experts, can single-handedly thwart a well-planned terrorist event is similarly unrealistic.

That doesn't mean we're incapable of protecting ourselves. What we can and should do is work collectively to identify and report incidents that raise our suspicions to stop events before they occur and steal the initiative from the enemy.

For more information or to report suspicious activity, call the law enforcement desk at 6-3200.

THE INCIRLIK GUIDE



Today

Good Friday service — The chapel hosts a Good Friday service at 6 p.m. in the chapel sanctuary. For more information, contact Patty Heidlage, chapel volunteer, at 6-3890.

Teen Flashlight Egg Hunt — The Youth Center sponsors a free flashlight egg hunt for teens (ages 13 to 18) at 7 p.m. in the youth center. For more information, call 6-6670.

Incirlik Idol Talent Show — Everyone is invited to attend a talent show at the consolidated club complex at 7 p.m. For more information, call 6-6670.

Saturday

Easter Egg Hunt — There is an Easter Egg Hunt at 2 p.m. at Arkadas Park for children up to 10 years of age. For more information, call 6-6966.

Easter Bunny visit — Come see the Easter Bunny at the base exchange from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Incirlik Idol Awards Banquet — Everyone is invited to attend the Incirlik Idol Awards Banquet at 5 p.m. at the consolidated club complex. Dress is semi-formal. For more information, call 6-6670.

Sunday

Easter Sunday Mass — The chapel hosts an Easter Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m. in the chapel sanctuary. For more information, contact Patty Heidlage, chapel volunteer, at 6-3890.

Easter Brunch — The consolidated club complex hosts a Easter Sunday brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Adults cost \$10.95, children ages 6 to 11 are \$5.95, and

ages 5 and younger are free. For more information, call the club 6-6101.

Monday

Free Turkish classes — Turkish language and cultural classes are offered Mondays and Wednesdays through April 21 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the family support center. Classes are free, but class size is limited. For more information or to sign up, call the FSC at 6-6755.

Tuesday

IAHS Parent-Teacher Student Club meeting — The Incirlik American High School hosts a Teacher-Student Club meeting at 6 p.m. in the high school media center. For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. John Herkel, Parent-Teacher Student Council president, at 6-6439.

Wednesday

PTO meeting — The Incirlik Elementary School Parent Teachers Organization will meet at 2:30 p.m. in the elementary school media center. For more information, call 6-3109.

Thursday

School Advisory Committee — The Incirlik Elementary School Advisory Committee meets April 15 at 2:30 p.m. in the elementary school media center. For more information, call 6-3109.

International Spouse's Group meeting — The International Spouse's Group meets from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the family support center. For more information, call Thomas Evans, Family Advocacy program assistant, at 6-3160.

Friday

Recode base fuel keys — There is a base-wide vehicle/organization tank fuel key recode in process. Vehicle control officers should bring fuel keys to the resource control center in Building 124 by April 16 to be recoded. For more information, call 6-6469.



The above key is the solution for the crossword puzzle published in the April 2 edition of the Tip of the Sword. For more information, e-mail the Tip of the Sword staff at tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil.



COMBAT & SPECIAL INTEREST PROGRAMS

Friday

Children's Story Hour — The library sponsors a children's story hour open to preschool children 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. every Friday. For more information, call 6-6759.

Tuesday

PWOC Spring Bible studies — Combat Touch hosts Protestant Women of the Chapel Spring Bible studies Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 to 10 a.m. For more information, call Monica Matthews, PWOC president, at 6-2298.

Wednesday

Education Fair — The edu-

cation center hosts an Education Fair 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the consolidated club complex. Deans and school representatives from several universities will be there. For more information, contact 6-3211.

Thursday

Project CHEER needs volunteers — Project CHEER meets every Thursday at 3 p.m. in the services conference room. For more information, call 6-6441.

Ongoing

Girl Scout volunteer needed — Volunteer needed to fill several positions. For more information, call Donna Pena, overseas committee chair, at 6-6800.

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK



Airman 1st Class Aaron Kuckovic,
39th Security Forces Squadron
central security controller

Time on station: Two years

Time in service: Four years

Hometown: Akron, Ohio

Hobbies: Snowboarding and mountain biking

How do you contribute to the air base wing's mission? I support the mission "by providing command and control duties for day-to-day and contingency operations. I also initiate appropriate checklists and notifications during contingency actions and plot maps and charts of responding security forces."

What do you like most about Incirlik? "The people."

Why did you join the Air Force? "For a challenge and to earn money for college."

What's your favorite motto and why?

"It is not the critic that counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena ... who spends himself ... and who at worst if he fails, at least he fails while daring, so that his place will never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory or defeat.' I believe these are important words to live by, because you will never know what you are made of by sitting on the sidelines and not taking any risks."

What Air Force core value best describes you, and why? "Excellence in all we do, because something is not worth doing unless you give it your all."

Supervisor's quote: "Senior Airman Kuckovic truly exemplifies the top qualities of our security forces defenders — professional, dedicated, driven and someone you can trust and count on in any situation," said 1st Lt. Chad Harris, 39th Security Forces Squadron flight commander.

or call, Staff Sgt. Caroline Wood, stray animal facility volunteer, at 6-6072.

Child-care providers require approval: Family child-care providers must be approved by the Family Child Care Panel to be authorized to provide childcare in on-base housing. For more information or to become a licensed family child-care provider, call Vicky Haskins, FCC program director, at 6-5098.

Instructors needed: instructors are needed to teach Conversational Turkish, Conversational English, Spanish, guitar lessons and Turkish cooking at the community center. For more information, call Nerissa Atkinson, community center program specialist, at 6-6966.

Life guards needed: Full-time and part-time life guards are needed for the summer season at the on-base pool. Turkish and U.S. applicants welcome. For more information, call outdoor recreation at 6-6044.

Job vacancies: Non-appropriated funds has vacancies for a school age program assistant at the youth center, a recreation assistant at the youth center, a waiter at the club, a child development assistant at the child development center and a sales clerk at the community center. For more information, visit the NAF Human Resources Office in Building 833 or call 6-3524.

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YOUR TURN



To submit a question for "Your Turn," call 6-6060 or e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil

April is Stress Awareness Month. What do you do to de-stress?

"I don't have children, so I travel. The farthest I have been is to Egypt."

– **Senior Airman Heather Davidson,**
39th Logistics
Readiness Squadron



"I think it's important to have friends and family to talk to, and to seek out new hobbies and interests. Then there is always Oprah and Dr. Phil."

– **Airman Tamicka Rumph,** 39th Security Forces Squadron



"I like to work out, especially running and lifting weights."

– **Airman James Gill,**
728th Air Mobility
Squadron



"I go to the gym, play with my daughter and try to spend more time with my family."

– **Christine Chalmers,** Home-maker



"I go shopping and to the gym."

– **Master Sgt. LaShea Stubblefield,** 39th Medical Squadron



CLASSIFIEDS

For sale: Graco double stroller, excellent condition, \$40. Toros 12 gauge, eight-shot semi automatic with pump, never fired, comes with cleaning kit and case, \$100 OBO. Call Pete at 6-2393.

For sale: Two twin-size beds, including oak head boards, metal frames, mattresses, box springs and bedding. Great condition. \$200 OBO. Two small girls bicycles, best offer. Assorted stuffed animals and toys, best offer. Small cat-scratching pole and tunnel, best offer. Call Steve or Ellen at 6-5267.

VBR clerk position: Vinnell, Brown and Root seeks an American national to fill a dormitory assignments clerk position. Applicants must be mechanically inclined, have strong computer skills and able to lift 25 pounds. For more information, visit www.vbr-turkey.com.

PTO positions available: Incirlik Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization needs volunteers. Permanent board and ongoing subcommittee member positions are available. For more information, call Robin Crowe at 6-2471 before April 30.

Free to good home: Talker, a domestic short-hair cat, is free to a good home. Talker requires shots and AVID, an American Veterinarian Identification Device, for adoption. For more information visit the stray animal facility in Building 6048, near the old tent city area Saturdays from 9 to 10 a.m.

Keeping in tune



Photo by Senior Airman James Seymore III

Sebahattin Daglioglu, 39th Services Squadron bicycle mechanic, gives a bike a spring tune up. Outdoor recreation offers tune-ups for \$12. Tune-ups typically take anywhere from one to three days. Outdoor recreation also offers ski and snowboard tune-up, skeet range, paintball, fishing equipment, mountain bike rides, snorkeling, scuba and tubing trips, and various trips to local attractions. For more information or to schedule a tune up, call 6-6044.



AT THE MOVIES

At the Oasis

Today

Torque (PG-13) — Starring Ice Cube and Jay Hernandez. A motorcycle racer is framed for murder by his long-time nemesis and a gang member, bringing the most notorious biker gang and its leader Trey after him for revenge, with the FBI not far behind in pursuit of all of them. (87 minutes)



Saturday

My Baby's Daddy (PG-13) — Starring Eddie Griffin and Anthony Anderson.



Lonnie, G and Dominic are three bachelor buddies from the hood who, after a lifetime of hard partying, are in

for a rude awakening when their respective girlfriends all get pregnant at the same time. The fathers-to-be embark on a hilarious and often touching journey while learning as much about themselves as they do about love and fatherhood. (99 minutes)

Cold Mountain (R) — Starring Jude Law and Nicole Kidman. Based on the best-selling novel. A wounded Civil War soldier, Inman, gets up from his deathbed and begins the long, difficult walk home to Cold Mountain, N.C., so he can be with Ada. Inman encounters many obstacles along the way. Ada, although heartbroken, is struggling to care for her deceased dad's farm. She receives a helping hand in the form of a sassy, hard-working wanderer. (154 minutes)



Sunday

Along Came Polly (PG-13) — Starring Ben Stiller and Jennifer Aniston. Reuben's best-laid plans for life and love career wildly off track when his bride dumps him on their honeymoon. Stunned and humiliated Reuben plans to play it safer than ever. But an encounter with a childhood friend named Polly,



shoots him into a whirlwind of living in the moment activities. (90 minutes)

Thursday

Cold Mountain (R) — Starring Jude Law and Nicole Kidman. (154 minutes)

At the M1

The Butterfly Effect (R) — 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. (113 minutes)

The Human Stain (R) — 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m. and midnight. (106 minutes)

The Passion of the Christ (R) — 10:30 a.m., 11:45 a.m., 1 p.m., 2:15 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 6 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 9:45 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. (127 minutes)

Along Came Polly (PG-13) — 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:15 p.m. and 11:45 p.m. (90 minutes)

Angela (unknown) — noon, 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m. and 11:45 p.m. (95 minutes)

Mortal Transfer (unknown) — 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:45 p.m., 9 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. (122 minutes)

For more information and updates, call the movie recording at 6-6986 or the theater office at 6-9140. The provision of movie information does not constitute an endorsement by the 39th Air Base Wing, U.S. government, Department of Defense or Department of the U.S. Air Force. For more information, call the theater at 6-6986.